

REMOVING FEDERAL BARRIERS TO COMMUNITY LIVING FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES - RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGE

EXECUTIVE ORDER

President Bush's Executive Order Number 13217 directs the Department of Justice, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Education, the Department of Labor, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Social Security Administration to evaluate the policies, programs, statutes, and regulations of their respective agencies to determine whether any should be revised or modified to improve the availability of community-based services for qualified individuals with disabilities. Results of the evaluations must be reported to the President by October 16, 2001.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Essential to the review is the involvement of consumers, family members, advocacy organizations, providers, relevant state and federal agency representatives, and others. We ask for your insights.

Additional information regarding all of the public input opportunities is available at:

www.hhs.gov/newfreedom

PUBLIC INPUT OPPORTUNITIES

<p>Written Comments</p> <p>Due by August 27, 2001</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Federal Register notice of July 27, 2001 requested that comments be sent electronically via email to: newfreedom@cms.hhs.gov. • If you do not have access to e-mail, you may send comments to the New Freedom Initiative Group, Department of Health and Human Services, P.O. Box 23271, Washington, D.C. 20036-3271. • If possible, also send an electronic copy of the comments on disk. For questions regarding the written comment opportunity, please contact Kari Benson at: kari.benson@aoa.gov or at (202) 205-0624. • You can access the Federal Notice at: www.hcfa.gov/medicaid/newfreedom/pubinput.htm.
<p>Toll Free Telephone Conference</p> <p>August 15 1:00 - 4:00 Eastern</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call (888) 396-9929 to access the toll free telephone conference and mention code: "Public Input." The Moderator is Kathy Rama. • To register, e-mail Liz White ewhite@cms.hhs.gov or call: (410) 786-0672. • At the time of the call, an operator will instruct you on how to queue up for testimony. A toll-free replay of the call will be available 24 hours a day until 5pm on August 31, 2001 by calling (800) 219-6389.
<p>National Listening Session</p> <p>Sept. 5, 2001</p> <p>8:30-5:00 Eastern</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, Atrium Ballroom, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. • <u>Register by August 22 to request a reserved three-minute time slot for testimony during the listening session.</u> While reserved time slots will be allocated primarily on a first come basis, we will work to ensure representation from a range of stakeholder groups. There will also be a limited number of unreserved slots. • All individuals planning to attend must register by August 31. • Register at www.hsrnet.com/meeting/newfreedom, or by fax or mail. • Call Martrell Kelly at (202) 828-5100 for additional information, or to obtain a registration form. • Some funds are available to assist consumers with travel expenses (call Martrell Kelly at (202) 828-5100 by August 22).

